

**Opening Statement of the Honorable Marsha Blackburn
Committee on Energy and Commerce
Hearing on “PPACA Implementation Failures: Didn’t Know or Didn’t Disclose?”
October 24, 2013**

(As Prepared for Delivery)

Thank you to our witnesses for joining us. I look forward to hearing your perspectives on just what has gone wrong so far with this roll out.

We were repeatedly told by members of the administration that everything would be working correctly and on time.

These false administration assurances seemed to sway some of my colleagues on the other side of the aisle.

At last months’ hearing, Mr. Waxman declared “nothing” could be found from our committee’s investigation of exchange implementation and readiness.

Apparently Mr. Waxman’s definition of “nothing” includes millions of Americans losing their coverage, design choices in the exchanges that hide unaffordable premiums, massive glitches and system breakdowns, and Americans spending countless hours trying to navigate exchanges not ready for primetime.

I hope Mr. Waxman decides to join our efforts to do proper oversight of the health care law.

These past three weeks of exchange messiness demonstrate that no member of this body should be a blind cheerleader for the Affordable Care Act and ignore the problems before their very eyes.

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